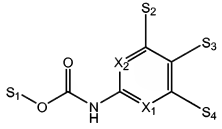
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. In the amended claims, additions are shown as underlined and deletions are shown as ~~struck through~~ or in the case of five or few characters as [[double brackets]].

1.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting FtsZ polymerization in a bacterium comprising contacting the bacterium with an effective amount of one or more compounds having the structure:



wherein

a) X_1 and X_2 are CH or N, and at least one of X_1 and X_2 are N;

b) S_1 is an organic radical comprising 1 to 8 carbon atoms;

c) S_2 is amino, halogen, hydroxyl, or an organic radical comprising 1 to 26 carbon atoms selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, monosubstituted amino, and disubstituted amino;

d) S_3 and S_4

(i) are independent substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen, amino, hydroxy, and an organic radical comprising 1-26 carbon atoms, or

(ii) together form a heteroaryl or heterocyclic radical comprising 5, 6, or 7 ring atoms, optionally substituted with 1, 2, or three ring substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, amino, and organic radicals comprising 1 to 12 carbon atoms

or a salt thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the bacterium is Gram positive.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the Gram positive bacterium is selected from the group consisting of: *Mycobacterium (M.) tuberculosis, M. bovis, M. typhimurium, M. bovis* strain BCG, BCG substrains, *M. avium, M. intracellulare, M. africanum, M. kansasii, M. marinum, M. ulcerans, M. avium* subspecies *paratuberculosis, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Staphylococcus equi, Streptococcus pyogenes, Streptococcus agalactiae, Listeria monocytogenes, Listeria ivanovii, Bacillus (B.) anthracis, B. subtilis, Nocardia asteroides*, and other *Nocardia* species, *Streptococcus viridans* group, *Peptococcus* species, *Peptostreptococcus* species, *Actinomyces israelii* and other *Actinomyces* species, and *Propionibacterium acnes*.

30.-31 (Canceled)

32. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the compound is linked to a permeability enhancer, wherein the permeability enhancer allows the compound to cross the cell envelope of the bacterium.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the permeability enhancer is selected from the group consisting of polymyxin B, surface active agents, defensins, other membrane active peptides and chelating agents.

34. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising contacting the bacterium with a permeability enhancer.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the permeability enhancer is selected from the group consisting of polymyxin B, surface active agents, defensins, other membrane active peptides and chelating agents.

36.-42. (Canceled)